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MENA: 'ARAFAT, IRAQ MOVE TOWARD RECONCILIATION

NC101645Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1554 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 10 August--MENA has learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to three principles for reconciliation between the PLO and Iraq.

The three principles are: halting the propaganda campaigns between the two sides; halting all acts of terrorism and attacks on the rejectionist organizations in Lebanon and abroad; holding a direct Palestinian-Iraqi dialog on the future relations between the two sides.

MENA has also learned that a delegation representing the Lebanese Nationalist Movement has been in Baghdad for 2 days now to mediate between the two sides. The delegation took with it written approvals of the principles from 'Arafat and Iraqi Ambassador to Lebanon Kazim as-Samawi.

PLO LEADERS MEET WITH SYRIA'S KHADDAM

JN091709Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1615 GMT 9 Aug 78 JN

[Text] A delegation of the Palestinian leadership this morning met in Damascus with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The Palestinian delegation consisted of brothers Abu Zuhayr, head of the PLO Military Department; Talal Naji, member of the PLO Executive Committee; and Abu Jihad, Abu as-Sa'id and Abu Mahir, members of the Fatah Central Committee.

The discussion during this meeting dealt with the current situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and the hostile activities of the puppet Iraqi regime against the PLO and its representatives abroad.

The meeting took place within the framework of the Palestinian-Syrian policy of coordination and consultation on current affairs.

PLO'S ABU MAYZAR ON PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

JN101504Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1325 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 10 August--PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar today stressed that the Palestinian revolution desires to have good and strong relations with Jordan so as to provide the conditions and the reasonable atmosphere for the Palestinian Arab struggle.

The PLO spokesman pointed out, however, that despite official Jordanian statements about good and developed relations, Palestinian-Jordanian relations have not witnessed any genuine development since the Rabat summit.

Talking to the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS today, Abu Mayzar touched on Palestinian national unity and said: "The Fatah movement has prepared a national unity proposal and submitted it to the PLO Executive Committee." Abu Mayzar expected that consultations in this regard will take place shortly between the different squads of the Palestinian resistance and the Executive Committee and the Central Council to agree on a unified formula.

Replying to a question on Palestinian-Syrian relations, Abu Mayzar described them as good and said: "Developments have demonstrated the necessity and importance of cooperation and coordination between the Palestinian revolution and Syria."

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE FAHD RECEIVES ATHERTON, PRAISES U.S. EFFORTS

LD102116Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, this evening received U.S. roving ambassador Alfred Atherton, who briefed his highness on the results of the talks held recently in the region by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and the proposal of President Carter concerning the holding of a summit meeting at Camp David on 5 September 1978.

Prince Fahd expressed the high appreciation of His Majesty King Khalid for the personal efforts of President Jimmy Carter, as well as Saudi Arabia's appreciation for the endeavors of the United States aimed at securing a comprehensive, just settlement of the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue. His highness also stressed his hopes and optimism that with the participation of President Jimmy Carter, with all his international standing and prestige, the meeting will inevitably achieve a giant step along the path toward the desired just peace. The prince described the decision by President Carter to convene this meeting as a brave step and an encouraging sign indicating his excellency's good intentions and the U.S. Government's sincere desire to play a more effective role to attain a just and comprehensive solution which would achieve peace in the region, a matter which deserves the appreciation of the Saudi Kingdom Government.

At the same time his highness expressed his regret at the declared unwillingness of Israel to change its obstinate intentions in a manner serving the cause of justice and right and helping the efforts of President Carter and the U.S. Government to achieve just peace in the region.

Atherton Leaves for Amman

LD111006Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0905 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Jidda--Alfred Atherton, U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, left Jidda this morning for Amman after a short visit to the kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by the U.S. ambassador, John West, and members of the embassy. Mr Atherton reported to Prince Fahd, the deputy prime minister and heir apparent, during a meeting yesterday, on the results of the recent Middle East tour by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

UAE

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM KING HUSAYN

JN101901Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1845 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 August--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a personal message from His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan. Jordanian Ambassador to the UAE 'Ali Khurays delivered the message this evening. The message reportedly deals with the latest developments in the current Arab situation and relations between the two countries.

YEMEN--PDRY

CHAIRMAN 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD MAKES APPOINTMENTS

LD101632Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politiburo and chairman of the Presidential Council and Council of Ministers, today issued ministerial decrees. The first appoints brother (Sahrif Ahmad) as governor of the eastern province of the Third Governorate; and the second appoints brother Sa'd Amir 'Ali as commissioner of the southern province of the Fifth Governorate.

YEMEN--YAR

'ABD AL-'ALIM, 'TRAITOROUS CLIQUE' SENTENCED

LD102210Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] The Supreme State Security Court held its final session at 1500 today under the presidency of Judge Ghalib 'Abdallah Rajih. The prosecution was represented by Lt Col Muhammad Khamis, head of the Central Organization for National Security.

The session was opened by the court president in the name of God and the people. He then read the sentences passed against those accused of high treason against God and the homeland. They are 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim and his traitorous clique.

The sentences also covered some of the immoral crimes committed by 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim and his clique and their killing of many innocent people in the provinces of Ta'izz and Ibb, in implementation of the criminal plans issued to them by the ruling clique in Aden.

The sentences provided for the following:

The execution of 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim in view of the crimes he has committed and as a punishment for his high treason against the homeland.

The sentences also provided for the execution of the following for committing the same crimes: Muhammad Muhsin Ghalib, 'Abd al-Wali Mahyub ash-Shargabi, 'Abd al-Wali 'Abd ar-Rahman ath-Thaqqaf, Nuhman Qasim Hasan, 'Abd al-Majid Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qirshi, 'Ali Muhammad Thabit, 'Ali Thabit 'Ali, 'Ali Muhammad Ghalib, 'Abduh Muhammad ash-Shargabi, Muhammad Salih an-Najjar, [names indistinct] Sadiq, Ahmad 'Abduh, Ahmad Muhammad Fadil, Ahmad Muhammad ar-Rabbabi, Sa'id as-Sabri and Naji Yusuf al-Hammadi.

The court also sentenced the following to death: 'Abduh Ahmad 'Aqlan, 'Abd al-Wasi' 'Abdallah Salih, 'Abduh Ahmad Ghanim, Muhammad Sallam, Rashad Hashim 'Ali, Hashim 'Aqlan, Ahmad 'Ali al-Quba'i, 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-Baqi, Muslih Sayf Muhammad, Ahmad 'Abduh Mashir, Muhammad 'Abduh al-Husaymi al-'Ammari, 'Abduh al-Kawli, Amin 'Abd ar-Rahman, 'Abd al-Qadir Ahmad 'Uthman Sa'id, and Mahmud Yahya [word indistinct]

Following the announcement of the sentences, the public prosecutor thanked the president and members of the court.

The president of the court then adjourned the session.

The sentences were referred to the president of the republic and supreme commander of the armed forces, who approved them and issued his directives to the competent authorities to carry them out as soon as those sentenced in absentia have been caught and their blood is considered [word indistinct].

The SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the court will resume its sittings shortly to try others.

DECREE APPOINTING PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

JN102049Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Presidential Decree No 20 of 1978]

[Text] After taking cognizance of the permanent constitution: the constitutional declaration of 6 February 1978 on the formation of the Constituent People's Assembly, amended by the constitutional declaration of 17 April 1978; the constitutional declaration of 22 April 1978 on the implementation of the Constituent People's Assembly decision defining the structure, duties and term of the presidency; the Command Council decision, incorporated in Law No 17 of 1978, regarding the issuance of the internal list of the Constituent People's Assembly; and the Command Council chairman's Decision No 3 of 1978 regarding the establishment of the Constituent People's Assembly, the president of the republic decrees:

1. The following brothers will be appointed members of the Constituent People's Assembly: 'Abdallah ibn Husayn al-Ahmar, Sadiq Amin Abu Ras, Muhammad 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Bahr and Ahmad Sayf (ash-Sharqabi). They will replace brothers Amin Hasan Abu Ras, Muhammad 'Abd al-Malik Shar'ab, Mansur Sha'if al-'Ariqi and Muhammad 'Ali Murjan.

2. This decree becomes effective as of the date of its issuance and will be published in the official gazette.

Issued at the Presidential Palace in San'a' on 10 August 1978.

[Signed] Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces

AL-AHRAM SAYS CAMP DAVID CONFERENCE LAST CHANCE

NC110739Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The Cairo papers this morning give prominence to President as-Sadat's assertion at the first meeting of the Provisional Secretariat of the Constituent Committee of the National Democratic Party yesterday that the People's Assembly will not be dissolved and that there is no inclination to dissolve it.

AL-AHRAM's editorial today refers to the risks on the road to Camp David and the need to exert maximum efforts to prevent the conference from becoming another Leeds Castle. It says: It is clear that the tripartite meeting which will be held at Camp David within a few weeks will determine the fate of many things in the Middle East, especially the chances of peace. This meeting will be the last decisive opportunity on which the peace efforts will depend, following a long series of efforts and contacts which frequently stumbled and were sterile.

AS-SADAT CHAIRS PARTY COMMITTEE MEETING

NC110744Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Constituent Committee of the National Democratic Party has met under the chairmanship of President Anwar as-Sadat. It continued its discussion of the party's platform on services, production and foreign policy.

It has been decided that from this evening until Monday the committee will accept the applications of People's Assembly members who wish to join the National Democratic Party. The party's secretary of People's Assembly affairs will receive the assembly members' applications at the People's Assembly club headquarters in Cairo. The party's parliamentary body will consist of the total number of People's Assembly members who join the party. It has also been decided that the party organizations will be formed through direct ballot in 175 constituencies in all governorates.

[Party Secretary] Fikri Makram 'Ubayd has announced that President as-Sadat has decided to stand as a candidate in the Tala group in Al-Minufiyah. His candidacy is for membership in the Permanent Committee of the party's constituent body. This candidacy will be announced during the [provisional] committee meeting scheduled for 16 Ramadan [20 August]. The president will then stand as a candidate for membership in the party's permanent bureau.

'Ubayd emphasized that by doing this President as-Sadat is setting an example in sound democracy. He said that the party chairmanship and membership in party committees will not be by appointment. During yesterday's meeting the door was opened for donations for the National Democratic Party. This is in line with President as-Sadat's instructions that the party activities be self-financed.

Discussions During Tour

NC101926Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1836 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 10 August--Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, secretary general of the temporary Secretariat General of the National Democratic Party, has stated that President Anwar as-Sadat will participate in the discussions the party will hold in the various governorates during his tour of the governorates before he leaves for the United States. President as-Sadat will begin his visit to the United States on 5 September.

AL-BAKR RECEIVES LEBANESE NATIONALIST DELEGATION

JN1012007 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 10 August--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the republic, has reaffirmed the support of the revolution and party in Iraq for the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance in their courageous confrontation with the continued Zionist aggression against Lebanese territory supported by reactionary, renegade and revisionist forces.

During his meeting here today with the delegation of the Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, President al-Bakr praised the honorable role being played by the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance in confronting the enemies with a high-struggle spirit. President al-Bakr stressed the [Iraqi] revolution's concern to escalate confrontation with the Zionist enemy and to wipe out the capitulatory settlement conspiracy being implemented by defeatist reactionary regimes in the Arab arena supported by imperialism. This conspiracy aims at aborting the Arab revolutionary movement and definitively ending its central cause and the axis of the Arab struggle--Arab Palestine.

President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr said that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party is keen on the unity of the Nationalist Movement, the Palestinian resistance and all the forces of good which reject shameful capitulatory solutions. This unity must grow in a way which will insure the Arab nation's victory over its enemies. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rafi'i, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, and by several members of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office at the National Command.

PDRY FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN1018417 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 August--PDRY Finance Minister Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah arrived here this evening. He will convey a verbal message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister, to Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman. The PDRY minister's visit comes within a tour of a number of Arab countries to exchange views with officials on the situation in the Arab area.

POLISH DELEGATION LEAVES IRAQ AT END OF VISIT

JN1107567 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 11 August--A Polish delegation led by Andrzej Markowski, secretary of state at the Ministry of Transportation, today ended a 3-day visit to Iraq. During the visit joint minutes on transport cooperation by the two countries were signed.

OFFICIALS DISCUSS ECONOMIC, POLITICAL ISSUES

LD1010557 Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 6 Aug 78 pp 35-36 LD

[Mario Picchi dispatch: "The Baghdad Long March"]

[Text] Baghdad--The entire city is bedecked, garlanded and decorated with colored festoons, arrangements of electric light bulbs, which in the evening light up into fantastic rainbows, and posters bearing revolutionary slogans.

From 13 through 17 July the fireworks gushed out enormous luminous flowers for hours on end right across the sky from (Al-Zaura) park to the Presidential Palace, from the ruins of Ctesiphon to the banks of the Tigris River, bringing an illusion of coolness to the burning night air.

Two major anniversaries are being celebrated, one more important than the other: the 20th anniversary of the creation of the republic and the 10th anniversary of the Ba'th Party's accession to power, or "the Glorious 17 July 1968 Revolution"; on 17 July 250,000 people filed past the president of the republic, the government and hundreds of representatives from friendly countries for 7 hours nonstop, 2100 through 0400.

Iraq is enjoying an unprecedented political stability and economic prosperity: "We are looking ahead to when the oil is finished," I am told by (Mustafa Rahal), a Syrian who studied medicine in Paris and who deals with the Ba'th Party's relations with Persian Gulf countries. "We do not want to repeat your mistake of allowing the countryside to become depopulated during the economic boom years." This is one of the lynchpins of the policy of the regime's second in command, Saddam Husayn, in fact the unquestioned leader, who wants--apart from black gold--green gold, that is, agriculture. (Cultivated land accounts for 3.8 percent of a surface area of 438,000 square km.)

"And after oil there will be solar energy," (Mustafa) continues confidently. Here the sun shines--too much, even--in a sky never blemished by the smallest cloud for most of the year, and in summer the temperature never drops below 40 and is often over 50 degrees centigrade. "In 10 years we have made some historic leaps forward: first the alliance and the agreement among the democratic forces which led to the National Front in 1973 and then the success in foreign policy. We were the first country to recognize East Germany. In Iraq there were not even any refineries; oil was immediately exported following extraction; there was no technological structure; agriculture was dead, and there were lands which had remained untilled since the times of the caliphs and were covered in salt. Now that we have created technological structures and cadres we are also strengthening agriculture. The city must help the countryside. We have created the basis for starting up heavy industries, and our investments in this sector have increased 10-fold."

During the crossing to visit Babylon, some 80 km south of Baghdad, I was shown in the desert vast developments covering mile upon mile: here factories (and workers' homes) will spring up for the assembly of trailer-trucks under license from Volvo, tractors under Soviet license and other things as well. "When we sell our oil abroad," (Mustafa) tells me, "we do not ask for currency in exchange but technology, expertise and products. In order to realize our form of socialism we have studied what has been done in other countries, especially Czechoslovakia and Poland, which have had similar experiences to our own, with the national fronts. What phase can we say that we are in now? That of socialist building or of the democratic transformation toward socialism. I do not believe that there are any borderlines between the two phases, although it seems that we have transcended the latter and entered the former. The fact is that our country has changed profoundly and its progress can be assessed by comparing it with the past."

(Nassif Auad), another Syrian, is editor of the Ba'th Party organ ATH-THAWRAH and he is said to be very close to Saddam Husayn. "Our form of socialism is not trying to copy other people's structures," he tells me.

"Industry in our country is prevalently government owned. Only handicrafts and workshops employing a staff of fewer than 10 can be private. In agriculture we have state farms (which use advanced techniques as an example to others), cooperative, collective or mixed farms. Private farmers can have as much land as one person is able to cultivate. Among these various systems we will see which of them is or are the best."

What is Iraq's role in the pan-Arab movement? Are you really sure that you can create a superstate now, I ask (?Auad)?

"Iraq is led by the Ba'th Party which created the revolution 10 years ago. The party ideology is the cornerstone of our policy and the Ba'th Party is the first political force in the Arab world which has set itself the aim of achieving Arab unity. Of course a party such as ours and a program such as ours conflict with the ambitions of the leaders of the individual Arab states, but I believe that we will achieve the establishment of an Arab state. Our form of socialism, which can be called a kind of Arab communism, is the reality of our world and a great experiment which wants to stand as the Arab world's model."

Iraq's leadership of the Arab world is suggested in many ways: The leading party has transferred its headquarters here. This is where its founder, Michel Aflaq, lives; this is where the policy of the leading country, Iraq, is drawn up; and this is where problems are resolved, even at the international level. Foreign policy vacillates between aggressive and conciliatory. (With the USSR, following a very warm period, they are now moving toward the ice age, as shown also by the president of the republic's speech on the occasion of the festivities and Husayn's recent interview with NEWSWEEK.) Subversive activities in various countries are financed always with a view to Arab unity (various Iraqi Embassy officials in London have been expelled, following a series of attacks on Arab figures.

Now there seem to be no problems in Iraq. What about the Kurdish question? Resolved. Illiteracy? We are eliminating it. Relations with the bordering countries? Excellent. Relations with the communists following the recent sentences and the rumor of further arrests and sentences? "The communists are in the government because we agreed to have them, but, we lead the government because we are in the majority," (Auad) tells me. (Mustafa) says: "Only the Ba'th Party is permitted to conduct propaganda in the army. This is why 20 communists were hanged." (But in the interview with NEWSWEEK Husayn was keen to explain that they were shot and that the execution was also to be considered in connection with pressure from the Soviet ambassador.) Nevertheless,the communists do not hide their fear of being eliminated entirely from political life, and here the elimination of enemies is always violent. There are soldiers everywhere and they firmly garrison the areas where great numbers of "pacified" or "transferred" Kurds are living in the south; the police are everywhere, although one cannot tell which are state police and which party police (but it is the same thing). The government has a dogmatic and cruel face, but there can be no doubt of the achievements and even progress. The city of Baghdad, a vast building site where shanty houses alternate with modern buildings and where a feudal structure 1,000 years old is trying to assume a new face, is a living symbol of the Iraqi dream.

PRESIDENT SARKIS MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR

NC101329Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At 1000 today in the palace, President Ilyas Sarkis met with the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, Richard Parker, who was accompanied by embassy adviser (Lucien Ling). Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus attended the meeting. Earlier this morning President Sarkis met with Minister Butrus. The two men reviewed the general situation in the country.

Following the president's 90-minute meeting with the U.S. ambassador, Ambassador Parker made a statement upon leaving the palace. He said: I have nothing to say. However, we have discussed the situation in the country in general, particularly the question of the south. Naturally, I have no comment to make on this question.

Asked whether the U.S. pressure on Israel in relation to the situation in the south has succeeded, Ambassador Parker refused to comment. He denied that he had conveyed new proposals by his government, and declined to comment on whether Lebanon had given him its reply to the Israeli conditions.

At 1145, Minister Butrus left the Republican Palace for the Foreign Ministry. Minister Butrus was asked about the nature of the U.S. ambassador's meeting with President Sarkis. He answered: The U.S. ambassador met with President Sarkis in my presence. We discussed all the matters which can possibly be related to the present situation. He was asked whether the U.S. ambassador had conveyed to him specific or new proposals. He answered: No, I have nothing to say.

At 1200, President Sarkis met with Brig Gen Ahmad al-Hajj, the director general of the Internal Security Forces. The president then met with the former director general of the Internal Security Forces, Joseph Abu Khatir.

ARAB DETERRENT FORCES REDEPLOYED IN BEIRUT

NC101522Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1415 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Arab Deterrent Forces in the Al-Ashrafiyah area have implemented partial security measures and have taken up new positions. These measures were implemented this morning under the supervision of a liaison committee composed of Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Dany Sham'un representing the Phalangists and the National Liberal Party and two representatives of the Arab Deterrent Forces Command.

The following positions were changed: The general security area, Karm az-Zaytun and buildings near As-Sayyidah, the cake house locality and the Sassin traffic circle.

It has also been reported that the Arab Deterrent Forces have changed their position facing the Chevrolet building on the Furn ash-Shubbak-Al-Hazimiyah road.

These new measures have produced a reasonable relaxation among official quarters and party circles.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil made an inspection tour of the Al-Ashrafiyah area at noon today to see for himself how the security measures are being implemented.

KUWAITI PAPER: U.S. WARNS SYRIA, ISRAEL ON LEBANON

JN110922Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 11 August--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS today writes that the United States has warned Syria and Israel that it will not allow any new deterioration in the Lebanese situation that might lead to a comprehensive war in the region.

Quoting sources in the U.S. State Department, AL-QABAS says the United States will not allow any side in the Middle East to ruin the Camp David summit, whether through the Lebanese war or other situations. The paper points out that the U.S. warning seems to have resulted in an agreement to stop the fighting in Beirut between the forces of the Phalangist alliance and the Arab Deterrent Forces. Some deterrent units have pulled out of some buildings in Al-Ashrafiyah to new positions amid conjecture that the calm might continue until convocation of the Camp David tripartite summit.

AL-WATAN: MERCENARIES ARRIVING TO JOIN RIGHTISTS

NC101634Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1556 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 10 August--Quoting reliable diplomatic sources, the Lebanese newspaper AL-WATAN, organ of the Nationalist Movement in Lebanon, says today that scores of mercenaries are intermittently arriving in Lebanon to fight in the ranks of the rightist militias. Quoting the same sources, the paper adds that at least 140 western fighters arrived in Beirut recently and joined the ranks of the Phalangist and Liberal Parties and that some of them have been arrested by nationalist elements and the Palestinian resistance.

RIGHTISTS FIRE AT BA'THIST LEADER'S HOUSE IN BEIRUT

JN101837Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 10 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 10 August--The residence of Rafiq Abi Yuni, Ba'th Party representative in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's Central Council, was exposed today to fire from Phalangist elements. Abi Yunis' wife was slightly wounded. Rightist elements directed their fire at Abi Yunis' house situated in the Nahr Ibrahim area which is controlled by the rightist parties.

ABIE NATHAN'S PEACE SHIP NOT ALLOWED IN BEIRUT

TA091907Y Paris AFP in English 1815 GMT 9 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, 9 Aug (AFP)--Israeli "peace pilot" Abie Nathan has been ordered to take his ship Shalom out of Lebanese waters after it was refused permission to anchor in Beirut harbor, it was learned here today. Israeli reporters aboard the 500-ton coaster Shalom (Hebrew for peace), in radio-telephone contact with their editors, said that the order was issued by the Lebanese Coast Guard.

The Shalom, which left Ashdod early yesterday and arrived off Beirut during the night, was carrying several hundred cases of pharmaceutical products, toys and candy for children and an ambulance--all purchased by Israeli donations for distribution in Lebanon. Mr Nathan had said he hoped to be allowed to anchor at Beirut and to hand the gifts to the Lebanese Red Cross.

Recently, Mr. Nathan ended a more than 40-day hunger strike to urge the Israeli Government to make peace concessions.

BEIRUT RADIO: SITUATION CALM MORNING OF 11 AUGUST

NC110636Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The security measures initiated in Beirut yesterday have created an atmosphere of tranquillity and stability and a feeling of optimism about restoration of calm in the capital prior to the resumption of work in various vital establishments, particularly in Beirut Port. Efforts are expected to be devoted to the reopening of the port.

The night was calm in the capital, indicating that progress is being made toward achieving security after the causes of tension and friction are eliminated from certain areas and quarters and after the armed elements are removed from the streets as agreed upon between the parties concerned. These measures are expected to be applied throughout the capital.

Concerning the situation in southern Lebanon, international diplomatic and political contacts are continuing in order to enable the Lebanese Army to impose the state's sovereignty over border areas.

UNIFIL SPOKESMAN THREATENS TO FIGHT OPPONENTS OF ARMY

NC101710Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The spokesman for UNIFIL in the south, (Keith Bevan), has threatened anyone who obstructs the way of the regular Lebanese Army unit. He said the UN forces will fight all those who try to prevent the Lebanese Army forces from moving to the southern border areas in order to consolidate the authority of the Lebanese Government.

He added that the UN peace-keeping force will fight on the side of the Lebanese force in order to enable it to reach the south, because our mandate says that it is imperative for us to restore the Lebanese central authority to all Lebanon.

(Bevan) was speaking to newsmen in Metulla town near Lebanon's southern border.

UN Denial

NC110628Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The United Nations opened an urgent investigation last night following the statements attributed to the UNIFIL spokesman in southern Lebanon. The spokesman reportedly said that the UN forces might use their weapons to open the road for the Lebanese forces sent to southern Lebanon. A spokesman of the UN secretary general has stated that these remarks, as reported, do not represent the UN position or the policy it adopted in relation to the deployment of the Lebanese unit in southern Lebanon.

ISRAEL: EXCHANGES OF FIRE IN S. LEBANON REPORTED

TA091324Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 9 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Exchanges of fire took place this morning between terrorists and UNIFIL troops in the area of Rashayya al-Fukhkhar, on the slopes of Mt Hermon. Our correspondent in the north, Yehezq'el Hame'iri reports that the terrorists attempted to penetrate into the area under UN control.

soldiers from the Norwegian unit opened fire and in the exchange of fire the terrorists were made to flee. One terrorist stepped on a mine and was injured. The terrorists asked to remove him and the UN troops allowed them to do so.

It has also been learned that exchanges of fire took place between the terrorists and UN French troops.

The Kawkaba area, where the Lebanese battalion is still encamped, is calm now.

GENERAL ERSKINE DISCUSSES SOUTH WITH GENERAL KHURI

NC1019502 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 10 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The commander of the Lebanese Army received UNIFIL Commander General Erskine this afternoon. They discussed the situation of the military force in Kawkaba as well as the situation in the south. General Erskine had arrived at the Defense Ministry by special plane at 1530.

Meanwhile, Major Sa'd Haddad and Lt Col Adib Sa'd met in the border area this evening for the same purpose.

ISRAEL: ARMY UNIT REQUESTS CEASE-FIRE EXTENSION

TA1019482 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Aug 78 TA

[Text] In a meeting held a short while ago between Major Haddad and representatives of the Lebanese battalion, the latter, basing themselves on the cease-fire in Beirut, asked Haddad to extend the cease-fire without any time limit or conditions. The Lebanese officers also said that the terrorists are preventing them from retracing their steps [north].

Our military correspondent reports that an exchange of fire took place today between Irish UN soldiers and members of the Christian militias in the central front in southern Lebanon.

REUTER CITED ON CLASHES BETWEEN PALESTINIANS IN SIDON

NC1106302 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] REUTER reported yesterday that clashes broke out between Palestinian organizations in the old quarter in Sidon. The agency added that the citizens heard explosions and machinegun fire from the old city. The clashes broke out near an office belonging to the pro-Iraqi Popular Struggle Front. Shops closed in the area immediately and the people took shelter in safe places. Several gunmen were seen in the streets.

At the same time, the Arab Deterrent Forces patrolled the main streets near the area as a precautionary measure.

DAMASCUS PAPER VIEWS RISKS OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

JN110709Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its column "With the Events" and under the headline "Efforts for Peace or Preparation for War," the newspaper AL-BA'TH today writes: The Camp David summit, as is admitted by White House circles, is a risky attempt by President Carter to prevent the Middle East from turning once again toward war. As the New York TIMES says, this attempt is a result of the president's anxiety over the recent increase in Egyptian military preparedness. If the cause of this anxiety is As-Sadat's preparation for war, then it is a false anxiety because it is not based on the simplest logical argument derived from As-Sadat's real military status.

As-Sadat has sworn that the October War was the last war and has divested the Egyptian Army of its arms through the boycotting of Soviet arms. Even the 50 F-5 U.S. planes, which he was pledged not to use against Israel, have not reached him yet.

AL-BA'TH concludes its commentary by saying: The region will receive a new agreement with suspicion and measures for confrontation, but it cannot, in view of the current Arab reality, launch an Arab attack on Israel. The only explanation compatible with all the preparations in the region is a war launched by Israel to force a unilateral agreement and then work for other, similar agreements.

As Hodding Carter has said, it is true that As-Sadat, Carter and Begin will meet in the presence of the foreign ministers not the defense ministers. What is also true is that a decision for war is a political decision. Hence, it can be said that when the Camp David summit, through another unilateral agreement, explodes any possibility for peace in the region, it will then have taken a decision for war in order to punish the hostile forces so that the image of peace, American style, can be completed.

DAMASCUS: LEBANESE RIGHTISTS MEETING WITH IRAQI AMBASSADOR

JN092204Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 9 Aug 78 JN

[Text] A SANA correspondent in Beirut has learned that the Phalangist-Sham'unist gangs hold their contacts and meetings with the fascist Tikriti regime of Iraq through its ambassador in Lebanon. The correspondent says that the latest meeting took place between Camille Sham'un and the Iraqi ambassador in Beirut. The SANA correspondent says that the Phalangist-Sham'unist gangs are receiving various military and material aid from the Tikriti regime in Iraq.

Meanwhile, the correspondent has learned that Israeli boats last night unloaded cargo at the Juniyah port. The nature of the cargo is not known, but it is believed to be arms and ammunition.

ALGERIA

DELEGATION LEADER BITAT GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE IN USSR

LD100954Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Mr Rabah Bitat, president of the National People's Assembly, has given a press conference in Moscow in the last 24 hours, which gave him an opportunity to speak about the talks he has had with Soviet leaders during his stay in the country.

According to Mr Bitat these talks allowed both parties to proceed with an exchange of views, recalling that he had been charged by President Boumediene to convey a message to Mr Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Supreme Soviet.

The cowardly initiative of the As-Sadat regime and its concessions for the conclusion of a separate agreement with Israel are against the interests of the Arab peoples, added Mr Bitat, before stressing the need to strengthen the unity of the progressive forces in order to confront the situation in the Middle East and in Africa.

LIBYA

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL RECEIVES YAR COUNTERPART

LD091644Y Tripoli JANA in English 1455 GMT 9 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 9 August, JANA--This morning the under-secretary for foreign affairs received his counterpart, Mr Ahmad Haydar of the Yemen Arab Republic who is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah.

Mr Haydar delivered a message to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Arab Republic of Yemen.

The two under-secretaries discussed bilateral relations and the current situation in the Arab nation.

MOROCCO

FOREIGN MINISTER DENOUNCES CUBAN PRESENCE IN AFRICA

LP102122Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Text] M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, said in an interview with the Egyptian paper AL-AHRAM yesterday that the intervention by thousands of Cuban soldiers in Africa not only heightened existing tension but also affected stability in the continent and increased the possibility of war. He added: We cannot but denounce this intervention.

Boucetta stressed that Morocco is not against Cuba, recalling Morocco's help for that country when it was experiencing problems. He said our country had lost a great deal, especially American economic aid, at a time when we were suffering from a drought.

Concerning the possibility of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and some of the rejectionist front states, Boucetta said this would strengthen the Arab question and that Morocco would support every effort in this direction by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

Finally, Boucetta expressed his belief that the peace initiative of President as-Sadat would be useful if the Arab nation was able to close its ranks.

MOBUTU ENVOY MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

LD101426Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] The minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation received the special envoy of President Mobutu this morning. The talks dealt with relations between the two countries, matters of common interest, and international issues, especially African ones. He told the press that he has a message from President Mobutu for His Majesty King Hassan II.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI TO VISIT U.S. IN SEPTEMBER

LD101828Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Summary] According to the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY, President Numayri will visit the United States in the latter part of September at the invitation of President Carter. While in the United States he will visit UN headquarters in New York. Besides the United States, President Numayri will also visit Spain, Germany and EEC headquarters in Brussels.

Presidents Numayri and Carter are expected to hold talks on matters of common interest. The Sudanese-U.S. economic joint executive committee is to hold a special meeting in the United States to insure that the president's visit is successful from the economic viewpoint.

TUNISIA

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA RECEIVES MALTA'S DOM MINTOFF

LD101428Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] This morning Prime Minister Nouira received the Maltese prime minister, Dom Mintoff, who is currently in Tunis on a private visit. Following their talks, which were attended by Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri, Dom Mintoff made a statement in which he expressed pleasure at having met with the prime minister and the foreign minister. He pointed out that they discussed the means for strengthening economic and trade relations between the two countries. He also said that a high-level Tunisian-Maltese joint commission will be set up to pursue these talks.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON SAHARAN FIGHTING

LD100130Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 9 Aug 78 LD

[Text] In a military communique issued today the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Defense Ministry announced that during the attack mounted by forces of the Saharan People's Liberation Army on 5 August against the invading Moroccan forces in Bir Nazran, the royal forces were ambushed in the northern region of Bujador, resulting in the death of more than 20 royalist soldiers, the wounding of many others, the destruction of seven trucks and armored vehicles and the capture of a significant quantity of weapons. The communique added that on the same day the positions of the Moroccan royal invading forces in the region of Tifariti were subjected to a fierce artillery shelling by the Saharan fighters.

INTERIOR MINISTER BURG ON CAMP DAVID MEETING

TA101902Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Interior Minister Yosef Burg made it clear that the terrorist organizations may intensify their activity prior to the Camp David conference. They always do this, he said, when there is a bit of hope for a settlement. The interior minister spoke at a meeting of the MAFDAL Executive.

He spelled out three goals for national policy: deepening the understanding with the United States, making absolutely clear the national consensus which exists between the ruling coalition and the Alignement on the issue of withdrawal from the territories, and carrying out an informational campaign both in Israel and abroad.

MK Sheinman asked the interior minister whether there will be MAFDAL representation in the Israeli delegation leaving for Camp David with the prime minister. Mr Burg answered: The negotiations are national, not partisan, and the representation should be purely functional.

Comment on U.S. Role

TA101924Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Israeli sources told our political correspondent, Shalom Qital, that to date the United States has not indicated that it intends to obtain a declaration of principles in the Camp David talks. These sources assess that during the discussions in preparation for this summit conference, proposals may be made [by United States] concerning certain changes in Israel's position, as well as with respect to its comprehensive peace plan.

Labor Party View

TA101929Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The Labor Party says that the chances that the Camp David conference will succeed depend only on a government decision to aim at a declaration of principles based on Israeli readiness to withdraw to defensible borders. The Labor Party also says that if the Israeli representatives arrive at the conference with the principles of the Herut movement with minor modifications, the conference will end in a deadlock and the blame for the failure will be attributed to Israel.

CARTER CONSIDERS STATIONING U.S. SOLDIERS IN MIDEAST

TA101052Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 p 2 TA

[By DAVAR U.S. correspondent]

[Excerpt] President Carter has tentatively examined the attitude of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the possibility of stationing U.S. soldiers in the Middle East as part of a peacekeeping force in the area.

According to reliable sources in Washington, Carter talked about such a possibility in the course of a report to senators at the White House some 2 hours before the official announcement was made about the tripartite summit meeting to be held at Camp David next month, although he used very "vague" and "general" terms.

The same sources reported that the President's exploratory measures on the question of sending a U.S. military force to the Middle East met with "a great deal of skepticism" on the part of his audience, the senators. Some of them expressed great reservations and anxiety over the resumption of direct U.S. involvement in military activity overseas. The sources point out, however, that the President did not make a specific proposal, but merely tried to find out possible reactions in Congress to such a possibility.

Officials in Washington are now reviewing various military plans which might be considered in the effort to achieve a breakthrough in the peace talks stalemate. The sources note that the President referred to terms which were "way beyond" the present U.S. involvement in the Sinai buffer zone, where civilian technicians are currently serving at the Umm Khushayb early warning station.

It seems that Carter is considering the possibility of having an official military presence--most probably in the West Bank--whose job will be to maintain peace between Israel and its neighbors, the sources said.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: SUMMIT INITIATIVE BOTH SUCCESS, FAILURE

TA1011540Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 p 9 TA

[By Erol Guiney]

[Text] From a diplomatic point of view, the convening of the tripartite summit meeting at Camp David on 5 September simultaneously constitutes success and failure--for all three parties which will take part in it.

For the United States it will mark a success because it proves that the two strongest antagonists in the Middle East still regard it as the only possible mediator between them. Whatever the personal friction and the political differences of opinion between the Israeli and Egyptian leaders, they do not want to turn down the invitation sent to them by President Carter.

Moreover, the Soviet Union once again finds itself outside the framework of the talks. The Geneva conference, in which the United States is no longer interested, has been postponed until an undetermined date, and perhaps is not even being taken into account.

However, the meeting also marks a failure for the United States. Calling this meeting proves that all of Washington's efforts in the past 3 months--the journeys of Secretary of State Vance and roving Ambassador Atherton as well as the meetings Carter had with Begin and with As-Sadat--did not bring about any concrete result.

Consequently, the meeting at Camp David looks like the last way out. If it fails, no way can be seen to save the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations conducted with U.S. support. This, therefore, is a U.S. gamble which, in the next few weeks, the United States will try through intensive diplomatic preparations to turn into something less hazardous. Nevertheless, the gamble remains risky and the United States would no doubt have been happy to avoid it.

Among other things, the United States understands that if it does not succeed in bringing the two parties' positions closer, it will have to present its own ideas for a declaration of principles, if it does not want to lose Cairo's confidence. By that, the United States might lose Jerusalem's confidence, with all that entails for the Carter administration in a congressional election year.

The meeting marks a success for Begin because As-Sadat agreed to meet with him--even though only with the presence of Carter--without having received in return for his consent the price he asked: an Israeli commitment for total withdrawal from all the territories and recognition of the Palestinian nation's right to self-determination. The Camp David talks will, as Israel demanded, be open and without preconditions.

However, the convening of the meeting is also a failure of the attempt to break the ice, in contrast to Israel's hopes: Now the United States will have to play a more important role whether it wants to or not, and only the future will determine how important its role will indeed be.

This is also a personal failure for Begin, since he is the one who bears part of the responsibility for the lack of communication between himself and President as-Sadat.

This marks a failure also because it has now become clear that, as far as the question of the territories is concerned, at Camp David the Israelis will be exposed to heavier pressure than they were during the direct talks between Israel and Egypt. It is logical to assume that Begin will be forced to take back the interpretation he gave at the time to Security Council Resolution 242. In fact, the cabinet took a step in that direction already at the Leeds Castle meeting. This step, had it been taken earlier, would have caused less damage to our image in the world.

The meeting is a success for As-Sadat because at Camp David the United States will in one way or the other have to play the role of a full partner, as Vance was forced to state in Alexandria. Indeed, as As-Sadat understands it, the United States will be "a full partner with Egypt" while Vance understands it as meaning "a full partner in the search for peace." However, despite this, from now on the United States will become much more than a mere go-between.

This is, however, also a failure for As-Sadat. His agreement to go and meet with Begin without receiving a prior Israeli commitment--as he had demanded--is now being used against him by all his enemies in the Arab world, and in Egypt itself. If nothing is achieved at Camp David, he will have to change his policy completely and admit the failure of his peace initiative, which will be highly dangerous for him.

HA'AREZ CORRESPONDENT: CARTER 'IS NO NOVICE'

TA110704Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 p 9 TA

[Shelomo Kohen commentary: "This President Is No Novice. ."]

[Text] New York--Many observers stand bewildered in the face of President Carter's political achievements. It was not long ago that they termed him a "novice from Georgia" who "does not know Washington" and who "is surrounded by a company of amateurs who also do not know the labyrinth and complications of U.S. politics."

He was scoffed at for his energy plan that has been stuck in Congress for over a year, for the rapid retreat from the support (the purely verbal support) for human rights in the Soviet Union, and for the deterioration of the dollar in the world markets. Now many admit that the political wisdom behind his election campaign for the presidency--one of the most brilliant in U.S. history--was not lost when he entered the White House. Many of the problems the United States is facing are indeed far from being solved. Some of these problems, it is believed, cannot be solved at all. However, Jimmy Carter is functioning according to a sophisticated political timetable. He is proving that wise political planning and the ability to foresee some future moves are guiding him in his job just as they had guided him on the way to his job.

Many supporters and opponents of the President were impressed by the moderate and thoughtful manner in which he treated the invasion into Zaire and the talks about restriction of nuclear armament (the SALT talks). However, it was chiefly the political victories connected with the Panama Canal, the planes package deal to the Middle East and lifting the embargo on arms sales to Turkey that have strengthened his authority and status as a leader. In all these the President struggled over things he deemed important although his position was unpopular and faced weighty camps of opponents. He showed stubbornness and consistency, on the one hand, and flexibility and capability of bargaining on the other. The White House political forecasts were accurate: the hard struggles, the minimum positions of the opponents, their capability for bargaining and their breaking points.

In the course of the arguments the President succeeded in cleverly using all the cards he had. He made use of Gerald Ford on the Panama matter and on the issue of lifting the embargo on Turkey, of Kissinger and Jewish Senator Ribicoff on the matter of the planes. He kept the press beautifully tuned to him through leaks and briefings. He stained his opponents, attributing to them alien objectives (he attributed political aspiration for the presidency to Ronald Reagan and an Israeli or Jewish dictate to the senators who opposed the planes deal). His opponents certainly did not remain in his debt. Washington has undoubtedly turned into an arena of hard and thrilling political fights over the last few months.

Jimmy Carter is not a popular president and the public opinion polls confirming this worry him considerably. It was this which recently led him to hire the services of the public relations man who accompanied him during his election campaign, Gerald Rafshoon. About 2 months ago he toured the Western states where he lost in the presidential elections in 1976. Among other things, he was seeking to help the Democratic candidates competing for the Senate, the House of Representatives and local office. However, he was surprised to discover that most of the candidates desire his presence only for small-scale occasions intended to raise funds to finance their election campaigns. On such occasions the President's presence constitutes a focus of political and social attraction and yields practical fruits and cash. Most of the candidates did not want his company for public election appearances and speeches. Thus, for example, Jerry Brown, the young and energetic governor of California who is now running for a second term, limited his appearance with the President to the polite minimum.

However, President Carter's timetable is well planned. He hopes that by the November elections (the elections for the House of Representatives and for about a third of the Senate), the fierce disputes accompanying the Panama, Turkey and Israel affairs will be forgotten, the scars will be healed and only the political achievements of the President will remain. By then, the President expects, the energy legislation will have passed in the Congress, the plan submitted recently by the administration regarding national health insurance--a most painful problem in the United States--will have made progress in the long process of legislation, the dollar will have recovered a little (perhaps with the kind help of Saudi Arabia...) and the Dow Jones, which has showed signs of recovery lately, will have continued to rise. If by then Begin and As-Sadat have also managed to make progress toward the hoped-for peace--well then, all the better.

Those worried about this process are, of course, those who are suffering from it, especially the Republicans. Surprisingly, enough, they are the major factor in the President's achievements. Most of the Republican senators supported the Panama agreement, the planes deal and the removal of the embargo from Turkey. In contrast, most of the Democratic senators objected to these moves. "We are a little tired of rescuing Carter from his Democratic opponents," a Republican senator said recently, half jokingly, half despairingly.

The Republicans notice the similarity between the development of Carter's administration and that of Nixon's. Like Nixon, Carter promised the world to his electorate in the sphere of domestic policy, and, like Nixon again, he has not carried out his promises. Like Nixon, Carter's administration has been saved by achievements in the sphere of foreign policy. It was precisely in this way that Nixon led the Republicans to overwhelming victory in the 1972 election. Thus, the Republicans fear, Carter may lead the Democrats to victories in 1978 and particularly in 1980. Despite this, as mentioned above, there were many Republicans among Carter's supporters in the important votes held in the Senate recently. Howard Baker, the Republican senator from Tennessee, the leading Republican candidate for the presidential elections in 1980, was maneuvered into a corner and forced to vote with the President.

The administration's political ability, particularly its ability to foresee and plan complicated political moves, has surprised numerous people. There are, however, many variables in the expected complexity of developments: the tricks and schemes of the Soviet Union, Africa, Eurocommunism and the Dow Jones. Only time will tell how this administration will overcome the obstacles and difficulties that will face it. Nevertheless, one thing the administration did succeed in clearly proving to both supporters and opponents: This president is no novice.

MA'ARIV WANTS EARLIER PROCUREMENT AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

TA1011047 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez, MA'ARIV military correspondent]

[Text] The Defense Ministry mission now in Washington has asked that the signing of a procurement agreement be advanced to this month, so that it can be included in the current fiscal year.

The U.S. fiscal year ends at the end of September, and consequently the Defense Ministry delegation headed by the director general, Reserve Brig Gen Yosef Ma'ayan, left for the United States on Sunday. The delegation consists of a number of senior officers, including some senior air force officers. It has been reported that no difficulties in signing the sales contract are expected, since the arrangements were made when Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman visited the United States.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS WEST BANK

TA101057Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 p 3 TA

[Text] ITIM--Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori said yesterday during a visit to Hebron that Israel wants to develop good and honest relations with the Arab population in Judaea and Samaria. He expressed satisfaction that life in Hebron has been going on normally and that public order is being maintained. Zippori toured the Jewish cemetery in the town and visited the Avraham Avinu synagogue and Makhpella cave, where he heard details of the arrangements for prayers, security arrangements, and the Jewish-Arab coexistence. Zippori was accompanied by the head of the planning branch in the IDF headquarters, Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, and by the Hebron military governor.

Later, Zippori visited Gush 'Ezyon and heard from the secretaries of the settlements of Gush 'Ezyon, Allon-Shevut, Rosh Zurim and El'azar about their views and their problems. He also visited the new stronghold in Teqo'a and the recently paved new road from the Hebron road through the Judaea desert to the settlement of Mizpe Shalem, located on the cliffs west of the Dead Sea.

S. LEBANON QUIET; HADDAD, UNIFIL SPOKESMAN CLASH

TA101646Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 10 Aug 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Quiet still prevails in southern Lebanon. Major Haddad met with senior UNIFIL officers in the morning and at noon. In a short while Major Haddad will meet again with the commanders of the Lebanese force encamped in Kawkaba. Today the UNIFIL spokesman, (Keith Bevan), and Major Haddad met with journalists in Metulla. Our correspondent Raz Livnat reports from the north. [begin recording]

[Livnat] Chainsmoking and drinking beer, the UNIFIL spokesman declared today that UNIFIL has used force in order to achieve the goal of the mandate for which it was established--namely, to enable the Lebanese Government to control the south. As for the bribes offered to Major Haddad, the UNIFIL spokesman said that it was proposed to Haddad that he travel to Europe, Australia and the United States, and he added that if the proposal is made to send Haddad to the moon he will be very happy.

Major Haddad retorted that he was indeed offered bribes and that if this is the role of UNIFIL, its presence in the area is not desired. Haddad also said that he does not need the drunken and lying UNIFIL spokesman, whom he also accused of communist, pro-Syrian affiliations. Haddad said the UNIFIL spokesman must be replaced if the UNIFIL intends to remain in the region.

The dozens of foreign journalists and television cameramen rushed toward the two, who did not sit together since the UNIFIL spokesman announced his refusal to talk with Haddad. He claimed that his commanders also do not talk with Haddad. Reacting to this, Haddad said that he has proof about [his] meetings with the UNIFIL commander, Major General Erskine. Except for the loud argument, which attracted dozens of curious people to the place, and the noise of the television cameras, quiet prevailed in the region of southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Haddad Threatens UNIFIL

TA110716Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Aug 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel; correspondent Yehezqel Hame'iri report--presumably recorded]

[Text] Haddad is denouncing the UN commanders, notably UNIFIL commander Emmanuel Erskine and his deputy, Jean Cuq, who attempted to bribe him. He accuses them of cooperation with the terrorists and with plotting with them and Damascus in order to consolidate the Syrian foothold in the south and abolish all control and influence of the militias.

Haddad claims he has documents signed by Erskine from last June, according to which Erskine recognized the authority of Haddad and Shidyaq as commanders of the enclave. He says he even reached a written agreement with them regarding a division of tasks in the south, mutual cooperation and the charting of areas of responsibility on the subject of patrolling and supervision. Haddad claims that Erskine and Cuq are now disclaiming agreements they signed with him in order to lend a seal of approval to the penetration of Syrian troops into the south under a Lebanese disguise. It is in this way that Haddad and Shidyaq explain the UN declarations last night that UNIFIL would prevent by force any attempt by the militias to prevent the Lebanese contingent now at Kwakaba from continuing on its way to the south and deploying at Tibnin.

The UNIFIL men are playing with fire, Haddad threatened last night in the wake of these declarations. If indeed UNIFIL lends its hand to this, all responsibility for what happens will be on Erskine and Cuq. Haddad is not concealing his intentions. Our decision is firm to prevent the transit of the battalion at any cost, he has asserted, adding that anyone who attempts to assist its transit is putting his life in jeopardy as well.

UN RAISES IDEA OF AIRLIFTING LEBANESE TROOPS

TA101108Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Aug 78 pp 1, 15 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez, MA'ARIV military correspondent]

[Excerpt] Yesterday afternoon, when the commander of the UN contingent in southern Lebanon, Gen Emmanuel Erskine, met with Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan and the commander of the northern command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal, he brought up the idea that the Lebanese battalion stationed in Kawkaba could be flown to Tibnin by helicopters. The chief of staff's reply was that if the flight route crossed the skies of the Christian enclave, this must be coordinated in advance with the commander of the enclave, Maj Sa'd Haddad.

The meeting took place yesterday at 1400 in Rosh Haniqra and took over half an hour. The UN officers asked for Israeli help in convincing the commander of the Christian enclave to let the Lebanese battalion move toward the Tibnin area. The Israeli reply was that this issue was Major Haddad's business and that Israel could not force him into accepting any kind of arrangement.

The meeting was initiated by the UN officers with the hope of thawing the present freeze.

It has been learned that Israel's position is that it cannot object to the passage of the Lebanese battalion into the Tibnin area since Jerusalem recognizes the sovereignty of the Lebanese Government over the south. Observers think that Major Haddad is operating in contradiction to this policy.

LAND PREPARED FOR NEW GOLAN SETTLEMENTS

TA061241Y Tel Aviv HAZOFE in Hebrew 6 Aug 78 p 3 TA

[Text] The Land Development Administration of the Jewish National Fund [JNF] lately has been carrying out land preparation work for five new settlements on the Golan Heights. In some of the settlements the Land Development Administration has finished preparation of the infrastructure to enable the construction of buildings there.

The infrastructure work was carried out in the following places:

Kibbutz Ortal--350 dunams of land have been prepared for this kibbutz of the Kibbutz Hame'uhad movement in the center of the Golan Heights;

Kibbutz Natur--200 dunams have been prepared for this kibbutz near Kibbutz Geshur in the center of the Golan Heights;

Moshave Yonatan--Housing infrastructure on an area of 250 dunams has been prepared for this settlement affiliated with Hapo'el Hamizrahi in the center of the Golan Heights;

Har Odem--About 150 dunams will be prepared by the JNF for this cooperative Moshave of Ha'oved Haziyyoni that will settle in the northern Golan Heights.

'PEACE NOW' PROTESTS SETTLEMENTS; BEGIN REFUSES COMMENT

TA092048Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Members of the Peace Now Movement sent a letter to the prime minister and Minister Ari'el Sharon demanding that they reverse the decision to establish new settlements in Judaea and Samaria. Yesterday they put up posters in the three main cities [Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa] stating that the decision to establish new settlements harms the peace process. The movement's members say that they received the information about this decision from an authorized source. The spokesman of the Peace Now Movement says that this was a first action in a series intended to prevent steps that are harmful to the peace process.

Prime Minister Begin was asked by correspondents today about reports spread recently about the government's decision to establish new settlements. Mr Begin refused to confirm or deny these reports, referring the correspondents to the head of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs, Minister Ari'el Sharon.

OFFICIALS PROPOSE USE OF GREEN PATROL IN GALILEE

NC060640Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Top level government officials have recommended the activation of the green patrol in the Galilee as well. This is because, in their opinion, there has been a serious increase in the seizure of government plots by Arab villagers there.

Ministers who toured the area have indicated that strong action must also be taken against the extensive illegal building activity being carried out on plots belonging to the government in violation of any previous planning.

TAMIR SAYS GOVERNMENT DECISION ON IQRIT, BAR'AM UNCHANGED

TA091844Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Justice Minister Shemu'el Tamir says that the decision of the district committee for building and planning to convert the Bar'am area into a forest preserve will not affect the government's decision on the [Bar'am] displaced persons. Mr Tamir told our correspondent, Shemu'el Tal, that he does not yet know all the details regarding the decision of the district committee and therefore he cannot say whether this decision is legal. Mr Tamir noted that it was decided to impose a blackout on the deliberations of the ministerial committee dealing with the Iqrit and Bar'am affair.

LOSS OF YARMUK WATER FEARED IF JORDAN BUILDS DAM

TA071405Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Amir Shapira]

[Text] Against the background of confirmed reports about serious preparations by the Jordanian Government to begin building the (Maqariyan) dam on the Yarmuk River, the Israeli foreign minister will submit a document on its position to the U.S. State Department strongly demanding that the aid that the United States is to give for the construction of the dam as well as the financial aid obtained from World Bank institutions for this project be dependent on insuring Israel's rights to its part of the Yarmuk waters as provided for in the past in an unsigned agreement between the sides.

A senior source who stated this maintains that Israel is able to act to disrupt the plans of the World Bank to finance the (Maqariyan) project, and information concerning such an intention has already been brought to the knowledge of the State Department.

In deliberations at a senior political level it was decided to demand unequivocally that the United States resume its contacts with Israel on this issue after it transpired that the United States acted unilaterally in moving to cooperate with the Jordanians and ignored the need to examine with Israel the issue of Israel's vulnerability as a result of the construction of this dam.

The (Maqariyan) dam is scheduled to be constructed several score kilometers away from the site where the Mukheiba dam was to be built, near where the Yarmuk and Rokad meet, in the southern part of the Golan Heights. The dam is supposed to hold 250 million cubic meters of water and to release water in a controlled manner for the 'Ur project aimed at developing the eastern part of the Jordan Valley.

According to the arrangement agreed upon when U.S. aid for the 'Ur project was obtained, Israel was to be guaranteed water from the Yarmuk--25-40 million cubic meters annually--and there are fears that when completed the (Maqariyan) project will deny Israel this right.

I have learned that deliberations recently took place on this issue in the Foreign Ministry, where the legal issues involved were examined. Among other things, the possibility was examined that Israel would act in its own way to secure its right to the water in a way so that the demand for dialog and an agreement would come from the other side [Jordan], which would consider itself injured. Elements involved in this issue assess that Israel is able to create a situation whereby the United States would be forced to make its aid to Jordan dependent on obtaining a commitment from it to protect Israel's interests in the agreement. However, up to now, no way has been found to obtain a commitment which would express Israel's status as a partner in the negotiations on the issue of the Yarmuk.

BRIEFS

U.S. DESTROYER IN HAIFA--The U.S. destroyer Richard Byrd arrived in Haifa this morning. This is a missile-carrying destroyer and has 350 crewmembers on board who will be the guests of the Israeli Navy. The captain was received this morning by Haifa Mayor Yeruham Zeisel. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 7 Aug 78 TA]

OPPOSITION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ASSESS PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE

LD091135Y Milan L'UNITA in Italian 5 Aug 78 p 11 LD

[Article by K. Rahmat and B. Reza, members of the Iranian Unitary Committee for Democracy: "From the Mosques Against the Shah"]

[Text] The Shah's regime now seems to be not only far from the peak of its strength, but in a way retreating on several fronts. In this a tactic? Is there, once again, a massive repression in store as the ultimate solution to the regime's troubles? If this were the case, what chance would the shah--the keystone of the repression--have of managing to harmonize the now strongly opposed interests at home and thus recovering all his foreign support? The events of recent months leave much room for doubt that the repression can continue indefinitely. If anything, the riddle to solve is to discover the level of effectiveness and opposition of the progressive forces in this process.

In recent months the major struggles have been most highly organized in the universities and mosques--the only places which, during the long years of repression and absence of any alternative, served as focal points for broad sectors of society, thus becoming crystallizing agents for the ferments emerging from society. But this does not mean that the religious element is the fundamental motive behind the popular protest which is shaking Iran, though it serves as an emblem and a structure.

In Iran's recent history, the religious movement, though taking part in the struggles--sometimes in a decisive manner--has not had its own political expression. The National Front headed by Mossadeq--which was supported by the national bourgeoisie and by broad strata of the urban bourgeoisie--even had demands from the religious sector among its programs. Following the defeat of the experiment of the "Second National Front" in the early sixties and because of the absence of any other practical political alternative, a split occurred between the components of the front and certain religious leaders, when the latter proposed an Islamic government which would fight against the dictatorship under the banner of egalitarianism and struggle against the wealthy. The lower strata of the bourgeoisie and the masses of the faithful, who were predominantly poor, saw their aspirations identified in these proposals. This was the movement which in the dramatic July of 1963 prompted the great demonstrations against the regime, during whose repression thousands of people died.

Since then--in a period of some 25 years of dictatorship--changes, including some major ones, have taken place in Iran's social composition. The national bourgeoisie, which had a specific function toward the end of the forties and at the beginning of the fifties, in practice lost its own economic role and became identified with the modern Iranian bourgeoisie, linked with the bureaucracy and big capital. Even the petit bourgeoisie is no longer a homogenous social stratum. The higher, wealthy echelons are being integrated into the system and eventually merging with the modern bourgeoisie, while the lower echelons are being severely harmed by the state's monopolist policy and are threatened with the danger of outright decay. The traditional petit bourgeoisie (small-scale trading and bazaars) is threatened with bankruptcy as a result of economic stagnation.

Coalition Government

With such an economic outlook, a possible alternative to the shah's dictatorship within the system is unlikely to be anything other than a force capable of expressing such heterogeneous realities and hegemonizing them--a force which cannot fail to be sought in the religious component, the National Front, and among the dissidents within the ruling oligarchy.

These forces' political objectives can be summed up as the unification of the moderate tendencies, guaranteeing support from the Carter administration and the involvement of the religious radical sector. Their aims are observance of the constitution and the establishment of a coalition government. Observance of the constitution implies restricting the monarch's power and the influence of the shah's court--one of the major economic groups, whose strength is based essentially on the political machinery. The coexistence of such forces within a coalition will depend exclusively on the realism of the parties involved. But the realization of this plan will also depend on the capability of the progressive forces and organizations and on their influence on the workers' masses.

There is talk of delays within the Iranian left. And it is understandable that under a dictatorial regime this is due mainly to massive and prolonged repression. But in the case of Iran, apart from this element there is also that of the splits, which have deep roots in the history of the opposition, to the extent that the democratic and revolutionary forces are not now fighting the dictatorship united.

Many of the elements which now comprise the Iranian resistance alinement stem from the same forces which secured the constitutionalists' victory over the Kajar Dynasty in 1906. In those struggles there were three major ideological and political trends involved: religious-progressive, secular-democratic and Marxist-revolutionary. In 1921 Reza Khan (the shah's father), helped by the British, carried out the first coup d'etat and in 1926 proclaimed himself king. It is noteworthy that less than a year before the 1921 coup d'etat the Iranian Communist Party was formed.

A few months after the end of the dictatorship, brought about by the allied army on Iran's entry into World War II, the parties and trade union organizations were formed, including the Tudeh (Mass) Party. It is difficult to say that each of these political organizations authentically represented a social class in the strict sense, inasmuch as in historical terms classes had yet to develop. However, there were major social organizations, landed potentates linked to the court, and an urban bourgeois class in search of its own national identify. We are still in the early years of a considerable democratic fervor. The shah is constitutionally in power, but he is clearly champing at the bit. Many domestic and foreign interests are represented on the political scene, but everything is centered on the oil issue, which since 1901 has been in British hands. While the struggle in parliament over oil concessions is a keen one, there is an increasing desire among the people for independence from the yoke of British imperialism.

A small group of only eight parliamentarians, headed by Mossadeq, is stepping up the struggle in parliament against British petroleum. The slogan of the various Mossadeq political groups is the "struggle for nationalization of the oil industry" and their policy is based "on a negative balance"--that is, not granting anything to the two major powers. The Tudeh Party, on the other hand, favors the nationalization of oil but has not abandoned its old slogan: "Nationalization of the oilfields of the south," which is the domain of the British monopoly. Furthermore, it advocates the policy of a "positive balance" between the two major powers in the south and north of the country (the Soviet Union). The Tudeh Party is adopting a harsh policy hostile to that of Mossadeq, whom it describes as a "servant of U.S. imperialism," and it cannot understand the position and the social role of the Mossadeq forces. The Tudeh Party, on the other hand, is accused of being the Soviets' fifth column and an instrument of the "underhand Russian and British game" in the oil battle.

The 1953 coup d'etat halted the process of democratic development in Iranian society. From 1953 through 1960 Iran experienced only harsh dictatorship and stagnation throughout national life. This period witnessed the disappearance of any residual form of organized resistance. From 1963 through the sixties, the shah was the unchallenged protagonist of national life. During these years the political scene lacked any kind of democratic organization, apart from a few small independently organized clandestine groups which only partly related to the old traditions. The beginning of the seventies marked a new stage: even Iran saw the appearance of guerrilla fighting by organizations inspired sometimes by Marxism and sometimes by Islam. But relations between the old and new forms of opposition remain very tense and the unitary appeals against the dictatorship are lost in a dialog between deaf men. One therefore gets the impression that the call for unity is more ritual than real, in view of the differences. In what form do these differences remain?

Tudeh Party's Evaluations

Now the alinement, which includes the remnants of the former Mossadeq groups and heterogeneous domestic and foreign interests, pursues the objective of setting itself up as the possible alternative to the shah's dictatorship. Even if this policy does have a chance, it does not fail to raise serious questions both at home and abroad. On the other hand, maybe we will find a plausible answer to the permanent divergence among the democratic forces in the Tudeh's attachment to old evaluations of Iranian society which often still survive within that organization. While a certain world process may at the time of the cold war have partly justified even many of the Tudeh Party's errors, that past is still affecting all relations within the workers movement in Iran.

In this connection one should note the considerable increase in size of the working class. The level of its political and trade union organization is still rudimentary, because of the police regime. On a national plane the workers are as yet unable to identify themselves as a force representing their class and shared interests, so much so that one is led to believe that they are open to any hegemonistic outlook. And the problem is precisely this: Greater cohesion on the part of the working class and its alliance with the other progressive social forces in the near future will have a considerable influence on the prospects for resolving the crisis. What problems does this pose? First, attempts--no matter what their source--to monopolize and impose one's own representation of the working class and the automatic transfer to Iran of divergences between the blocs present in the international workers movement constitute serious obstacles along the path of unity and cooperation among these forces. Expression of an independent national and internationalist line and consistency in maintaining its democratic and pluralist character are essential prerequisites for the Iranian workers movement. As decisive elements, they will indicate the extent of the working class' potential influence on Iran's future development. It seems evident to us that there is urgent need to be consistent with the plan for a democratic and independent society and to be so right away by dealing with the national and international problems rather than periodically repeating the old formal appeals. Thus the combination of old and new problems demand that everyone revise his own conduct. The cause must not be lost a second time through the same errors.

BANGLADESH

ZIA SETS UP COMMITTEES TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAM

BK101715Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0751 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Dacca, Aug 10 (AFP)--President Ziaur Rahman has set up 18 committees, each headed by a minister, for proper implementation of his 19-point programme, which he announced before seeking a vote of confidence in a referendum in May last year. The programme was part of a manifesto President Zia made for the presidential elections on June 3, in which he had a landslide victory as nominee of the six-party Nationalist Front.

The 19 points include the preservation of national independence and sovereignty at all costs; building self-reliance by all means; ensuring the people's participation at all levels of administration; strengthening the rural economy; attaining self-sufficiency in food; ensuring the minimum needs of life, like clothes, shelter and medical treatment; providing incentives to private investors in economic development; and building up friendship on an equal basis with all countries, especially with Moslem nations.

ARMS, AMMUNITION RECOVERED FROM UNIVERSITY

BK110930Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 11 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Some arms and ammunition were recovered from two halls of Dacca University in a predawn police raid today. A spokesman of the metropolitan police said the halls raided were the Sergeant Zahur Haq Hall and the Abu Syed Hall. He said 13 persons, including students and outsiders, were taken into custody. The recovered arms and ammunition include 1 smg [small machinegun], 1 rifle, 3 rifle bayonets, 3 revolvers, 3 daggers, 1 grenade, 1 pipe gun and over 100 rounds of ammunition.

INDIAN DELGATION ARRIVES FOR COMMERCE TALKS

BK101722Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] A five-member Indian delegation arrived in Dacca today for talks on trade and transit facilities between Bangladesh and Nepal over Indian territory. At the 3-day official-level talks the Indian delegation is being led by Mr (P.S. Soni), additional secretary and member of the Indian Central Board of Revenue. The Bangladesh team is led by additional secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Mr (S.B. Chowdhury).

It may be recalled that Bangladesh and Nepal signed a separate trade and transit agreement in 1976. But there has not been any substantial trade turnover between the two countries due to the absence of an agreement between Bangladesh and India on the issue.

The Indian delegation will also call on the commerce secretary, Mr Matiur Rahman, tomorrow and will hold a meeting with the commerce minister, Mr Shaifur Rahman.

INDIA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL DISCUSSES AID TO SRV

BK1010367 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] India is prepared to consider any concrete proposals from Vietnam for additional assistance. This was announced by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Somarendra Kundu, during question time in the lower house of Parliament today. He said that there have been no such concrete proposals from Vietnam so far.

Replying to supplementaries, the minister informed the house that India has signed an agreement with Vietnam for providing aid of 100 million rupees on a government-to-government basis and 300 million rupees as commercial assistance. Besides, India has also agreed to set up a paddy research center and a buffalo breeding center in Vietnam. A study team has been deputed to survey the setting up of a steel plant. The team has submitted its report. It was further stated that India will provide 300,000 tons of wheat to Vietnam and had already given 100,000 tons of wheat.

The minister told the house that no country has reacted adversely to Indian assistance to Vietnam.

RAJYA SABHA APPROVES MOTION AGAINST DESAI FAMILY

BK110917Y Delhi ISI in English 0879 GMT 11 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The Rajya Sabha has approved by voice vote an amended opposition motion on corruption charges against members of the families of the prime minister and the former home minister. The motion calls upon the government to seek forthwith the guidance and advice of a house committee for appropriate and necessary action on the allegations of corruption. The committee will consist of 15 members and is appointed by the chairman of the Rajya Sabha. As an alternative, the motion asked the government to straight away appoint two separate commissions of inquiry to go into the allegation, reports AIR [All-India Radio].

The amendment to the original motion of N,K.P. Salve, Congress-I, was moved by Bhupesh Gupta, CPI [Communist Party of India]. It was accepted with 104 members voting in favour and 78 against. The Congress-I, Congress and CPI members supported it, while the members of the ruling party, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], DMK [Dravida Munetra Kazgham] and All India Anna DMK [Anna faction of DMK] opposed it.

The debate, which lasted more than 8 hours, concluded at about 2200 on August 10.

Intervening in the discussion, the prime minister described the charges made by Salve and others as fantastic and politically motivated. He said the motion was brought forward only to hurt him and the Janata Party. Rejecting the charge that his son had used extraconstitutional power and influenced the appointment of certain high officials, Desai declared if anyone could prove this he would be prepared to live apart from his son. Strangely enough, many persons, including those from the opposition, meet his son, though he discourages it. In a challenging tone Desai asked the Congress-I members to make their charges outside the house and face the consequences. Desai asserted that he believes not only in public morality but also private morality and tries to live up to it. But he cannot oblige the opposition members by subscribing to untruth and falsehood.

Recalling the background from 1950 onwards when he was the home minister of Bombay, Desai said frivolous allegations began to be leveled against his son since that time. He had survived all this calumny for the last 25 years. This is one of the penalties that men in public life have to pay. Even Gandhiji was not spared, he added.

In the past Nehru and Mrs Gandhi, when they were prime ministers, had gone into similar allegations and found them baseless.

The minister also denied that any income tax file on his son was missing. He pointed out that Charan Singh had gone on record to say that he had no document or evidence to prove the charges against Kanti Desai.

Replying to the debate, Salve reiterated his charges and said some of them were of recent occurrence. He denied that he had consulted his party leader, Mrs Gandhi, before bringing forward his motion.

Leader of the house L.K. Advani told newsmen that a resolution is prima facie in the nature of the recommendation to the government. However, he would like to examine the matter and also understand its full implications from the chairman, Jatti.

An AIR parliamentary correspondent says that the resolutions are not binding on the government except when they are statutory resolutions. According to authorities on parliamentary practice and procedure, the Rajya Sabha by itself cannot direct the government in any of its executive functioning as the Lok Sabha can.

Further Report

OW102040Y Hong Kong AFP in English 2032 GMT 10 Aug 78 OW

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 10 (AFP)--Prime Minister Morarji Desai today accused the opposition of making "most fantastic and motivated" charges against his son to hurt him and the Janata Party. Mr Desai was replying to day-long discussion on a motion by former Premier Indira Gandhi's Congress Party in the upper house of Parliament, seeking the appointment of two inquiry commissions into allegations of corruption against Kanti Desai, the prime minister's son, and relatives of his former cabinet colleague Charan Singh.

After Mr Desai's reply the house adopted the motion and called upon the government to seek guidance and advice from a 15-member committee of the house for action on the allegations. The mover of the motion, N.P.K. Salve, listed 32 charges against Kanti Desai of exercising "extra-constitutional" authority and indulging in "shady and murky" business deals, saying he had taken advantage of his father's official position.

Mr Salve said he had made "absolutely unequivocal and specific charges against the family members of the prime minister. But no one blames the prime minister for dishonesty."

Allegations against Kanti Desai included: Interference with the appointment of officials in the Air India Board of Directors and the Central Board of Direct Taxes and "clinching evidence" found by a government investigative agency that Kanti Desai had received a share of a 1.1 million dollars off in the Boeing deal.

Mr Salve also alleged that the purchase of defence equipment of several millions of rupees in West Germany and West Europe had been routed through an Indian businessman-industrialist who was an old associate of Kanti Desai.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT SOUTH KOREA 17 AUGUST

BK101242Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, will pay a 3-day official visit to South Korea from the 17th of this month.

PAKISTAN

MIG-17 RETURNED TO AFGHANISTAN 10 AUGUST

BK101525Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The Afghan MIG-17 aircraft which landed in Pakistan on 7 August was flown back to Afghanistan this morning. According to official sources, the six-man Afghan crew which arrived in Pakistan from Kabul yesterday to service the plan also left for Afghanistan.

COURT RULES ON MEDICAL TESTS FOR BHUTTO

BK100144Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0129 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 10 (AFP)--The Supreme Court today ruled it could not ask authorities tp arramge medical tests for former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto elsewhere if they could be done in jail.

Mr Bhutto is under sentence of death for allegedly plotting the murder of a political rival. His counsel last month informed the Supreme Court that Bhutto's health in jail was deteriorating and requested that his client be examined by doctors of his choice.

Consequently, on the court's order, a four-member medical board, which included his personal physician, examined Bhutto in jail on Aug 4. The panel did not find any gross abnormality in Bhutto's general health conditions and advised some clinical tests pending a final diagnosis. The state counsel informed the court today that doctors with laboratory equipment and technicians went to Bhutto in jail but he refused to be examined in his cell.

Chief Justice Anwarul Haq observed that the medical board, which included one nominee of Bhutto's, suggested certain tests only. It was open to the board to suggest at what particular place the tests should be undertaken. He observed that the court was only concerned that reasonable medical facilities be provided to Bhutto. The court asked his chief counsel to persuade Bhutto there was no harm in conducting blood and urine tests and an x-ray and electrocardiogram in prison. The jail superintendent requested that the report be placed on record "lest authorities should be blamed for not arranging facilities for tests." The court ordered the report be placed on record.

BRIEFS

TURKISH AMBASSADOR--The first Turkish ambassador to Bangladesh, Mr Ekrem Goksin, presented his credentials to president Ziaur Rahman on 10 August. [Dacca Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK]

NEW INDIAN ENVOY--The new Indian high commissioner, Mr Thomas Abraham, presented his credentials to President Jayewardene in Colombo on 6 August. [Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 7 Aug 78 BK]

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